

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-37 have been examined. Application 09/759,103 has a filing date 01/12/2001.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-37 are allowed.

Examiner's Statement of reason for allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Due to the closest prior art Walker (2003/0054888; 6,364,765) and Yoseloff (US 6,331,143) do not teach the claimed limitation "wherein the outcome indicator is generated independently of the trial outcome, and wherein the outcome indicator is representative of a winning trial outcome or a losing trial outcome, and further wherein the outcome indicator for a winning trial outcome has a distribution associated with a first statistical distribution and the trial outcome has a distribution associated with a second statistical distribution, and further wherein the first statistical distribution has a distribution which is different from the second statistical distribution", claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-37 are allowed.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL LASTRA whose telephone number is 571-272-6720 and fax 571-273-6720. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LYNDA C JASMIN can be reached on (571) 272-6782. The official Fax number is (571) 273-8300.

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/DANIEL LASTRA/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3688
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